

77-2319

Executive Registry

77-3040/3

28 APR 1977

Brig. Gen. James L. Collins, Jr., USA
Chief of Military History
Department of the Army
Washington, D.C. 20314

Dear General Collins:

We have reviewed Dr. Hunt's outline of his information requirements concerning specific programs pertaining to the Vietnam pacification effort for the period 1964-1973. In setting forth his requirements, Dr. Hunt added the "National Police" and "Enemy Order of Battle" as topics to his request which greatly increased the scope of the original request for information on pacification programs in South Vietnam. We wish to point out that USAID was the primary U.S. Government component responsible for National Police funding, advising and training. The Agency, by law, was restricted to working with the Special Branch of the National Police, and information derived from Special Branch operations was disseminated to members of the U.S. Intelligence Community, including DIA. Concerning Dr. Hunt's request for order of battle information including the infrastructure, we must defer to DIA and Army holdings on this subject.

In reference to the remaining topics requested, it is believed that the vast majority of the information is already available within military channels, the military either having participated in the cited programs, or having received appropriate CIA disseminations. Accordingly, in order to assist Dr. Hunt, we have attached a special computer listing of some eleven hundred reports, studies and memoranda disseminated by various members of the Intelligence Community on the topics in which he is interested.

Pertaining to Agency operational files, it is estimated that it would take a three-person task force four to six weeks just to conduct an initial review of the appropriate files to determine if the material is pertinent to the information requested. It would then take several or more months to complete the detailed review, sanitization, reproduction and clearance procedures. An undertaking of this magnitude would require that the task force work at our records retirement center, not at Headquarters. The manpower for such an undertaking is currently unavailable.

In view of the above, it is our belief that an exhaustive review of Agency operational files will not produce any significant amount of data not formally published already to merit such a large undertaking. Accordingly, the attached references constitute the extent to which the Agency, all conditions considered, can do to honor this request.

In order to expedite the processing of any future requests or any questions you may have concerning this request, please address all such inquiries to Dr. Jack Pfeiffer, CIA Historian, Washington, D.C. 20505.

Sincerely,

B. C. Evans
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

CONCURRENCE:

STAT

[Redacted Signature]

Robert Shearer
C/EA/VCL/V

4/26/77
Date

STAT

Originated By:

[Redacted Signature]

for Mark L. Peterson
C/ISAS/DDA

26 Apr. 1977
Date

Distribution:

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

C/ISAS

DATE

26 April 1977

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

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1. C/EA/VCL/V
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2. AI/DDA
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6. Executive Secretary
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
THE CHIEF OF MILITARY HISTORY AND THE CENTER OF
MILITARY HISTORY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314

Executive Secretary

77-3040/2

DAMH-HD

23 FEB 1977

Mr. James Lucas
Assistant to the Executive Secretary
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Lucas:

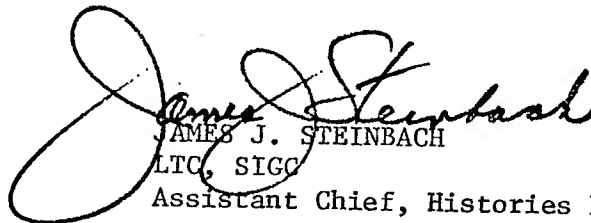
As you requested in our telephone conversation of 15 February I am forwarding to you an inclosure which outlines the exact parameters of Dr. Hunt's record access requirements.

Dr. Hunt does possess a Top Secret, SI clearance and all notes taken by him in reference to the topics listed on the inclosure will be controlled. Furthermore Dr. Hunt's manuscript will be cleared with your office prior to publication.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

1 Incl
as


JAMES J. STEINBACH
LTC, SIGC
Assistant Chief, Histories Division

Pacification Programs Vietnam, 1965-1973

Dr. Hunt's historical account will include the origins, policy changes, funding, advising and training programs as well as assessments of the results of the following programs.

- a. National Police.
- b. Phoenix.
- c. Provincial Reconnaissance Units.
- d. Revolutionary Development Cadre.

Other topics relating to the pacification program as recorded by your agency are:

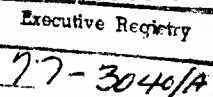
- a. Strategy and goals of the overall pacification effort.
- b. Studies of the political views and leanings of the people of South Vietnam.
- c. Overall assessments of internal security in South Vietnam.
- d. Studies of possible enemy infiltration and subversion of the South Vietnamese agencies responsible for pacification.
- e. Estimates of Viet Cong strength and order of battle, to include the infrastructure.
- f. Studies of pacification in specific provinces.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

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13	D/Pers				
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
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17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
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20	D/EE0				
21	C/ISAS/DDA	✓			
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Remarks:



DDA 77-0653

Brig. Gen. James L. Collins, Jr., USA
Chief of Military History
Department of the Army
Washington, D.C. 20314

8 FEB 1977

Dear General Collins:

In reference to your request that Dr. Richard A. Hunt be given access to Agency records pertaining to the Vietnam pacification effort for the period 1964-1973, a review of the control documentation related to such records indicates that there are 80 cubic feet of records that may or may not pertain to the dozen or more pacification programs in effect during the period. Such documentation, which cannot be released in its present form, will have to be screened to determine what records actually pertain to the subject of Dr. Hunt's request. A minimum effort would require the assignment of one and possibly two people on a full time basis for a period of one month, while a more complete effort would substantially increase the length of time involved. Such an effort would necessitate the compilation and maintenance of accurate records that document the time expended to review, sanitize, reproduce and obtain approval for the release of materials to Dr. Hunt, and as a matter of record for use in any contemplated billing of the Department of the Army. It is estimated that such cost will be considerable, possibly exceeding ten thousand dollars.

In view of the volume of materials involved in this effort and before proceeding with this project, it would be of great assistance to us if a statement could be obtained from Dr. Hunt outlining the exact parameters of his requirement including identities of specific pacification programs.

Sincerely,

B. C. Evans

B. C. Evans
Executive Secretary

Arms

SUBJECT: Letter to Brigadier General James L. Collins, Jr.
From B. C. Evans re Dr. Richard A. Hunt's request
for Access to Agency Records on Vietnam Pacification
Effort

CONCURRENCE:

151

C/EA/VOL/V

3 FEB 1977

Date

AT
AT

Originated By:

C/ISAS/DDA

3 FEB 1977

Date

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77-3040/L

25 JAN 1977

X1 MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]
Deputy for Information Management, ISG
Services Staff, DDO

X1 FROM: [REDACTED]
Chief, East Asia Division

SUBJECT: Department of Army Request to Review
Agency and Saigon Station Records

REFERENCE: Army Memo; Executive Registry 77-3040 and
DDO 77-0289

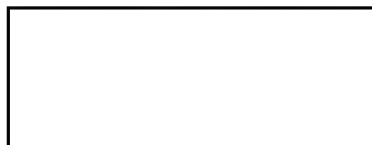
1. Reference states the Army request to review Agency and Saigon Station records pertaining to pacification programs in Vietnam during the 1964-73 period. A review of the documents which retired the subject records, indicates these records cannot be released in their present form. This review also reveals that there are some eight boxes (80 cubic feet) of material that would have to be recalled for further examination to determine if the material actually pertains to any of the dozen or more pacification programs in effect during the stated period. It is estimated that such project would take one or two people up to a month to complete at a minimum. Additional research involving a more lengthy time period would be necessary if this project is actually carried out to its prescribed end.

2. Before proceeding, however, a statement would be obtained from Dr. Hunt outlining the exact parameters of his requirement including identities of specific pacification programs. An accurate record of the time expended in support of this requirement will be kept for the record and for use in any contemplated billing of the Department of Army. It is believed that there will be considerable cost (possibly over ten thousand dollars) involved in reviewing the material, completing required sanitization and then reproduction prior

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to gaining approval for releasing any recommended material to Dr. Hunt's office. The availability of personnel will also have a bearing on the time necessary to complete this contemplated project.



cc: DDA
DDO

25X1 Orig: [redacted] VCL/V:scb/5845/9570 (24 Jan 77)

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - Mr. Ben Evans
1 - DDO
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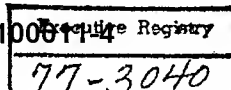
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

THE CHIEF OF MILITARY HISTORY AND THE CENTER OF
MILITARY HISTORY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314



10 JAN 1977

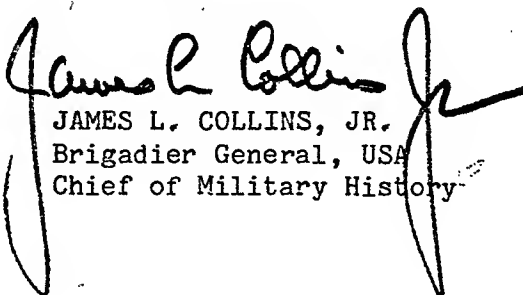
Mr. Benjamin C. Evans
Executive Secretary
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Evans:

The Center of Military History is currently preparing a multivolume official history of the U.S. Army in Vietnam. One of our historians, Dr. Richard A. Hunt, is writing the volume on the pacification program which the CIA and other government agencies supported. Mr. William Colby, who ran the American pacification support effort from 1968-1971, suggested that Dr. Hunt seek access to CIA files and studies pertaining to the overall pacification effort and the various pacification programs. I would like to request that Dr. Hunt be given access to those records of the Agency and the Saigon Station that bear on pacification for the period 1964-1973. Dr. Hunt holds TS and SI clearances and any notes he takes will be appropriately safeguarded. When his study is completed, the manuscript will be submitted to the CIA for review.

I would also like to express my appreciation for the assistance your agency recently extended to another of our historians working on Vietnam, Dr. Ronald Spector.

Sincerely,


JAMES L. COLLINS, JR.
Brigadier General, USA
Chief of Military History



EA/VCL/V.

Mr. Benjamin C. Evans
Executive Secretary
7D 6015

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18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPS				
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Remarks:

Please prepare response for my signature.